#### WELCOME

- Informational Meeting
- Sign In Sheet
- Request from December 4, 2017 meeting Selected Remedy
  - Focus on the San Jacinto Waste Pits Site
  - Hold Jot down notes and questions for Q&A
- 15 20 Minute Presentation
- Public Engagement 2 Hours Q & A
  - Form Line
- Facility Closes at 8pm

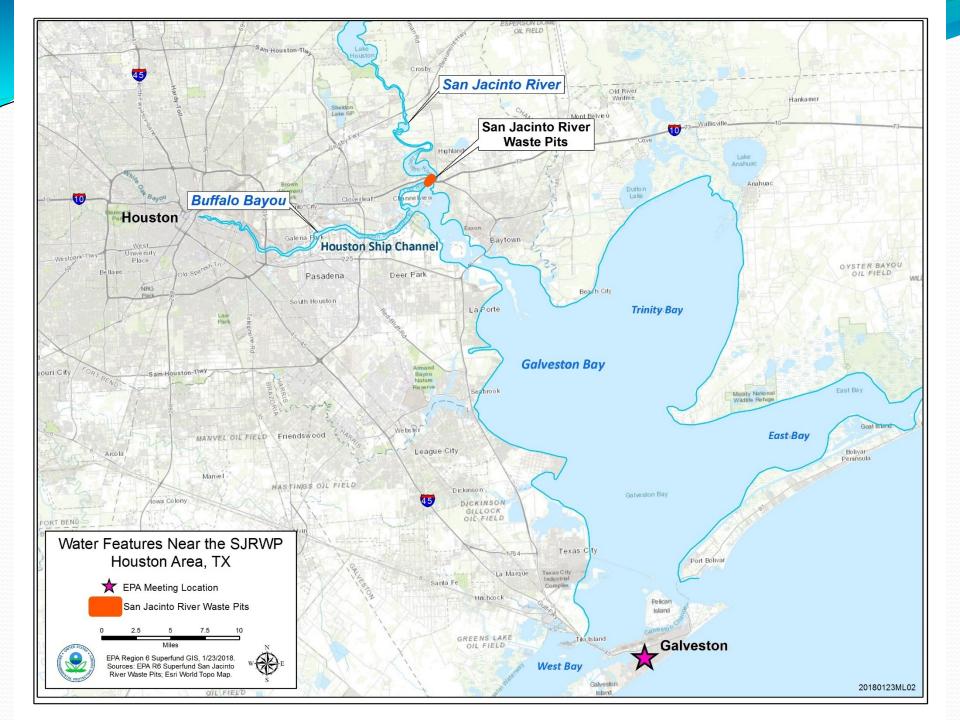
# San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site

Community Meeting January 30, 2018



## San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site

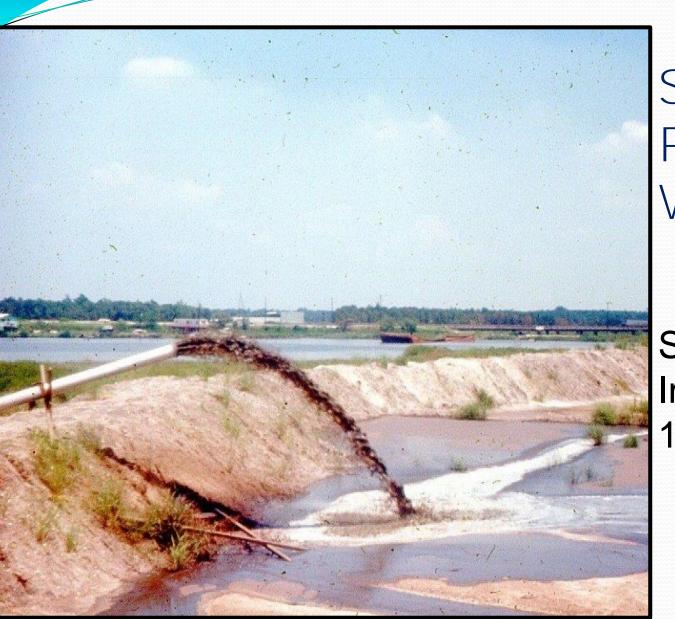
- Site background
- Record of Decision
- Prevention of releases
- Path to clean up





#### Background

- Built in the mid-1960s for disposal of paper mill wastes
- Partially submerged northern impoundments cover about 15.7 acres
- Contaminated with dioxins and furans
- San Jacinto River Waste Pits added to the National Priorities List (Superfund) on March 19, 2008



San Jacinto River Waste Pits

South Impoundment 1965

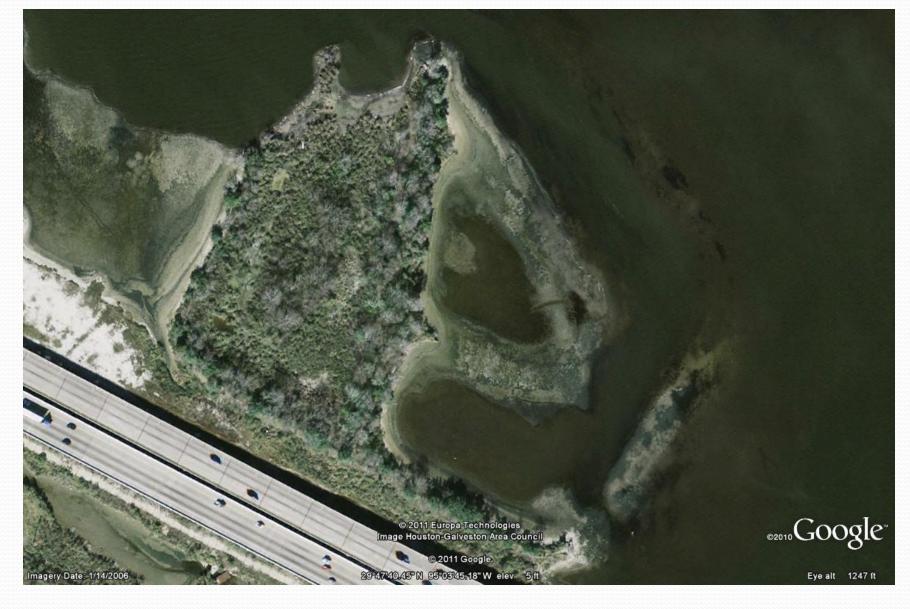
## Changing River Conditions

1966 1997





## San Jacinto River Waste Pits (2006)



### San Jacinto River Waste Pits (2007)



#### Immediate Actions Taken

- Waste exposed at surface and in the river
- People were being exposed
- Uncontrolled releases to river
- EPA determined that an temporary cap was necessary

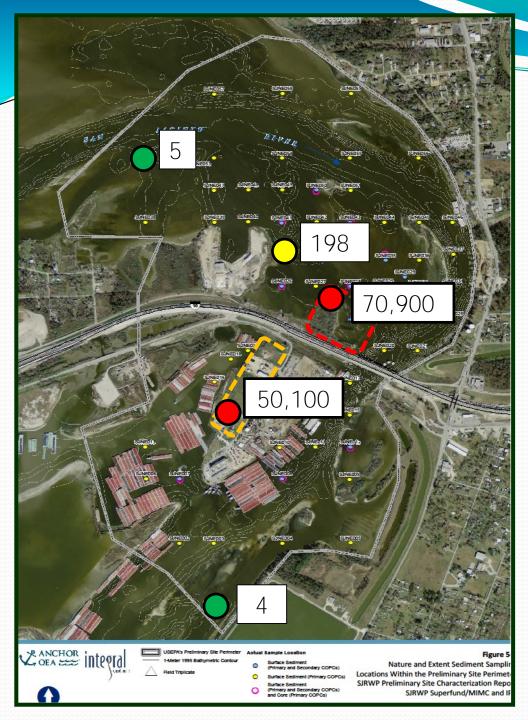
### Northern Waste Pits (after cap)



Cap Construction Completed July 12, 2011

#### Site Field Investigations

- Sediment samples
- Soil samples
- Groundwater samples (shallow & deep)
- Tissue samples (catfish, crab, killifish & clams)



### San Jacinto River Waste Pits Site

About 300 surface & subsurface sediment samples



Waste Pits

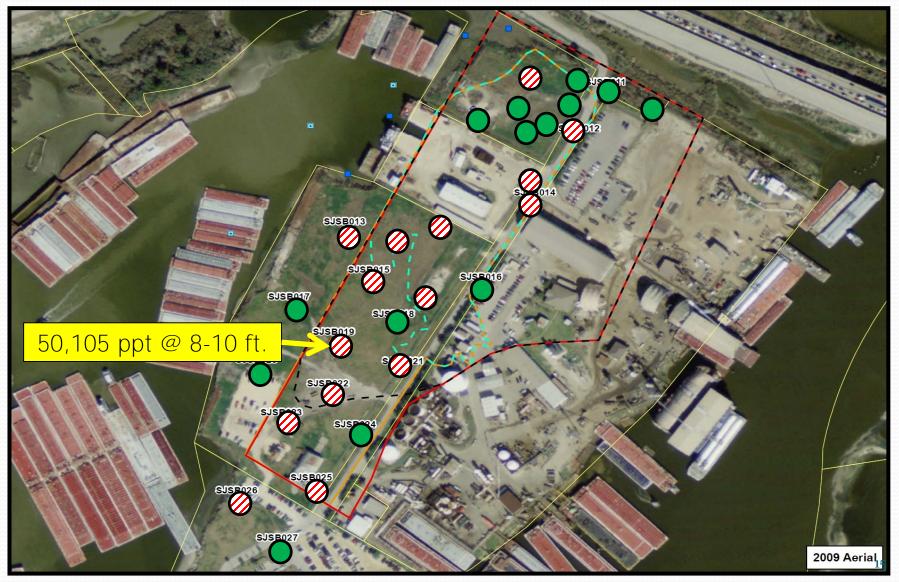


Southern Impoundment



Sediment - ppt TEQ<sub>DF</sub> Dioxin

## Southern Impoundment Soil Samples



#### Summary of Site Risks

- Human health potential risks to:
  - Recreational fisher (child)
  - Recreational visitors
  - Construction workers (south of I-10)
- Ecological potential risk to clams

### Summary of Remedy

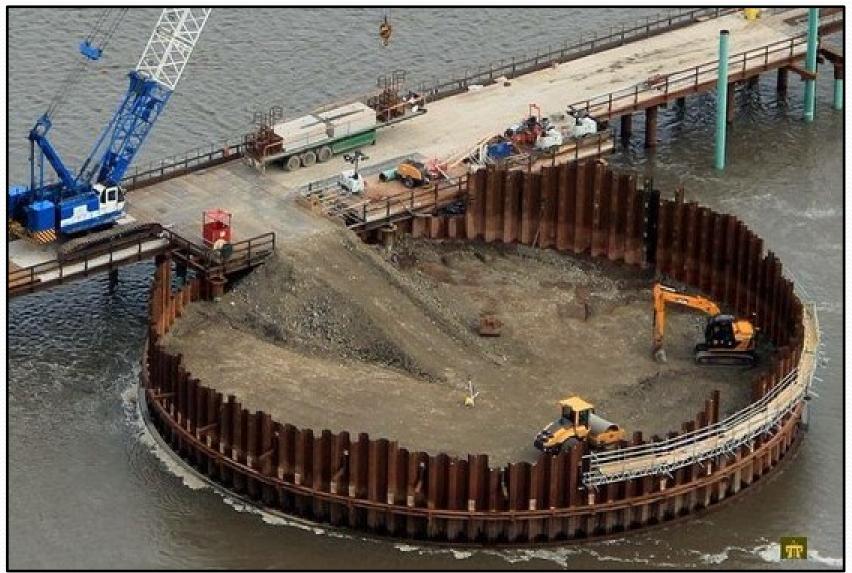
- Remove 212,000 cubic yards of waste for offsite disposal
- Prevent releases during construction:
  - No dredging use excavation in the "dry"
  - Pits isolated (cofferdam)
  - Water pumped out & treated before discharge
- Cleanup level 30 ppt for north waste pits & 240 ppt for southern impoundment
- Cost: \$115 million
- Construction time 27 months after design completed

#### Record of Decision

October 11, 2017 – Administrator Signature

- Over 7,000 comments received on Proposed Plan
- EPA conducted additional studies in response to comments:
  - Prevent releases during removal
  - Long-term cap stability
  - Constructability of remedy
- EPA listened to comments & adopted changes to clean up

## Best Management Practices (BMP)



#### Rationale for Selected Remedy

- Projected dioxin waste is highly toxic and persistent (100s of years)
- High threat of repeated storms and constant river flow against man-made features.
- History of armor cap maintenance
- Avoids catastrophic release in un-controlled situation

#### Path to Cleanup

- EPA expects that the Potentially Responsible Parties will pay for and perform the site cleanup
- EPA started Remedial Design discussions with Potentially Responsible Parties
- Cleanup will require a complex engineering design
- Transparent Remedial Design

# **Questions?**

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